



AIRPORT AREA COMPUTER CLUB  
 POST OFFICE BOX 710  
 CORAOPOLIS, PENNSYLVANIA 15108

Next meeting: DATE CHANGE! Second Sunday - March 12, 1989,  
 6:30, at John Jay Building, Room 22, Robert Morris College.

March 1989

Newsletter

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Airport Area Computer Club  
 P.O. Box 710  
 Coraopolis, PA 15108



DALLAS TI COMPUTER GROUP  
 P.O. BOX 29863  
 DALLAS, TX 75229

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR CASSETTE SYSTEM

BY MICKEY SCHMITZ

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOADING PROGRAMS:

1. TYPE: OLD CS1
2. THEN: PRESS ENTER
3. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN:
  - 3.1 \* REWIND CASSETTE TAPE CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
  - 3.2 \* PRESS CASSETTE PLAY CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
  - 3.3 COMPUTER DISPLAYS MESSAGE: \* READING
  - 3.4 COMPUTER DISPLAYS MESSAGE: \* DATA OK
  - 3.5 \* PRESS CASSETTE STOP CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
4. WAIT FOR THE FLASHING CURSOR TO APPEAR IN THE LOWER LEFT-HAND CORNER OF YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN



6. THEN: PRESS ENTER

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAVING PROGRAMS:

1. TYPE: SAVE CS1
2. THEN: PRESS ENTER
3. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN:
  - 3.1 \* REWIND CASSETTE TAPE CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
  - 3.2 \* PRESS CASSETTE RECORD CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
  - 3.3 COMPUTER DISPLAYS MESSAGE: \* RECORDING
  - 3.4 \* PRESS CASSETTE STOP CS1 THEN PRESS ENTER
4. YOUR PROGRAM IS NOW SAVED

## Re-Inking Ribbons & WD-40

Ed Machonis - QB Monitor

With all this talk of printing, a word about ribbons is in order. Lately several newsletters have carried articles about restoring ribbons by spraying with WD-40. I tried this a couple of years ago, it works. Then I happened across the following book which contained this excerpted paragraph:

EPSON, EPSON, READ ALL ABOUT IT! by Knott & Porchow.

"Warning: Some Epson owners feel that the life of their printer's ribbons can be extended through the liberal application of the lubricant WD-40. This could be the most costly mistake you can make with an Epson printer. The WD-40 will revitalize the dried ink in the ribbon's fabric, but it may also gum up the pins in the printhead. Although the lubricant consistency of QD-40 is ideal for large gears, it is not suitable for close-tolerance pin movement. Your choice as an Epson owner is between buying a new ribbon now or paying for a new printhead later."

I would disagree with classifying WD-40 as a large gear lubricant but the book seems otherwise authoritative and appears to have an Epson connection. I only know of one person who regularly used WD-40 on his ribbons. I, also, only know of one person who had to replace the printhead on his printer. Coincidentally both are the same person.

Upon reading the above, I purchased a MacInker, and am reasonably satisfied with it. I think it is terribly over priced and if you are handy you can make one. I find re-inked ribbons do not last as long as the originals, but some of the ribbons have been re-inked 6 times and are still going strong. The big advantage is I always have afresh ribbons to throw in at the first sign of weakness. Perhaps that's why they don't seem to last as long. Ink cost is about 10 cents per inking.

The ink used is a special ink and contains lubricant for the printhead. It can be obtained from Computer Friends who advertises in Computer Shopper and also sells the MacInker. I don't think using stamp pad ink would be a good idea as it lacks the lubricant.

(From CPUG Newsletter, by Dave Ratcliffe)

Here's something that is useless, but interesting... Type the following into your computer in Ex-Basic (note, <cr> means press ENTER):

```
NEW <cr>
100 CALL INIT:: CALL LOAD(-
31932,0) <cr>
```

Then type RUN and hit ENTER. When this short program is done, the \*READY\* that normally comes up on your screen will no longer be there. To get it back, retype everything again and replace the 0 with a 1 and you'll get the \*READY\* back again. I know, it's totally useless but this shows what lies hidden in our computer.

## Multiplan Part 14

by Audrey Bucher

young people. After our second letters he still had not read how to format a disk. When he can do that I will be sending him some PD disks to expand his library.

I am certain that I will have some more items to sell at the March meeting. It has helped a great deal to eliminate those programs for which I no longer have any use. I already find myself better able to find what I have among the remaining books, disks, and modules. I am certain that I would use the 99 more if it wasn't for taking it apart and then not having it set up in-between meetings. The 99 desk is jammed against the wall and it takes far too much time crawling around under the desk to get all of the cables hooked up again.

Don't forget to bring a demo if you have any favorite programs you would like to share with our members. It doesn't have to be new. As our members have found, many of the old programs which I have had at the last two meetings have not been seen at all by most of the members.

I will use material from some of our exchange papers to fill the rest of this issue. We do not have any type of library to keep these issues and I will be offering copies to members at this meeting so that there will be more benefit from the exchange issues. Come to get your share!

Many times when I'm entering data on a MP spreadsheet, I have several items to go into one cell. I always keep my calculator near the computer and when I have several entries for one cell, I quickly add them up on the calculator and enter the total. NO MORE. I read this neat hint in the SUD-BURY 99'ers Newsletter.. Why not let Multiplan do the work for me. Select VALUE and then enter  $5.67+4.32+0.09$ , then ENTER. Multiplan will give the total, and when you highlight that area again, your formula is still there. ( $6.67+4.32+9.09$ ).

No one in their group was aware that you could add figures in one cell. They all tried the math functions (\*-+/-) and they worked. Give  $(100+50)-(50-25)$  a try. It works.

So if you are entering data and you have more than one entry in a particular cell, then let MP do the work for you. Just remember to choose "VALUE".

Isn't it great how we can learn from each other. I have an idea that perhaps may be beneficial to all of us. How about bringing examples of some of the spreadsheets you use to the meeting and we can share the ideas. I'm sure each and every one of you have ideas that others wouldn't think of.

(From PUG Peripheral)

## President's Notes

### MEETING DATE CHANGE!

The March meeting has been shifted from the first Sunday to the second Sunday as I will be in Baltimore on March 5th trying to recruit some new faculty members. Please carefully note that we will be meeting on March 12, at our regular time 6:30 PM.

The news from here is rather slim. My TI99 is still in the box in which I carried it to the February meeting. It is two weeks until our meeting so I may have time to get it back together to try to arrange some demos. Fortunately, several of the members said they also would try to help with demos as this March meeting. Especially, Chris Pratt, student at Rochester, called and said he would be here with John Drennen and he would give at least one demo for us from his collection. Chris is working with monitor cables trying to get his monitor to display more than composite resolution. He has a Magnavox as I do, and he is pleased with the display as composite, but naturally he wants the full RGB which will give him the 80 column mode. He has a new device to allow the TI99 to show 80 columns and he will discuss it at the meeting.

I received a call from Frank Zic to tell me that he was the new owner of my Geneve. He is quite pleased to be working with it. I have to write Myarc to tell

them that I have transferred ownership to him in case they ever release some more software. He also is working with monitor cables. Joe Spiegel converted my monitor cable to work with the Atari so I did not send Frank a cable for his Geneve. He gets excellent composite screens on his monitor, but the colors are whacky as he presently has the cable wired when he goes to higher resolution.

All of my initial difficulties with the Atari are resolved. It is strange but my troubles were with an external 3 1/2 inch drive. It would not read many disks. Joe has ordered a new drive and I will use the old drive in the IBM clone. Meanwhile he is letting me use one of his drives and everything works great! Actually, too good. I am spending entirely too much time with the machine. Lots of my other tasks just aren't getting done - and unfortunately I am busier than usual at the office right now.

I wish to thank all of the new owners of the software which I sold at the previous meetings. I am pleased to have new "homes" for it. I received a request for help from an elementary school teacher who had been given several TI99's, including disk drives and some software, but absolutely no documents. I had several elementary books which I sent which seem to be helping a lot. The 99 is still an excellent introductory computer for